

X

FINGERPRINTING

(draft)

MERIT BADGE SERIES FOR THE BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA

2 PARK AVENUE, NEW YORK CITY.

Bureau
file
copy
/ 2

94-1-208-682

FINGERPRINT REQUIREMENTS.

1. Take a clear and legible set of fingerprints, including the rolled and plain impressions, on a standard 8x8 fingerprint card.
2. (a) Name the surfaces of the human body on which friction or papillary ridges are found.
(b) Explain why plain impressions must necessarily be taken on a fingerprint card.
3. Identify the 9 pattern types in which Sir Edward Henry groups fingerprint patterns; and collect a specimen of at least 6 of these types.
4. Give a brief history of identification by fingerprinting, and distinguish between civil identification and criminal identification, pointing out the useful purposes served by each.
5. Obtain the fingerprints of 5 persons and present evidence that these fingerprints, together with complete descriptive data, have been accepted for the civil identification file.

INTRODUCTION

As it appears from the two booklets forwarded to the Federal Bureau of Investigation entitled "Dramatics" and "Mechanical Drawing" that the introduction is standardized, this is not being type-written herein.

Historical Background

From the earliest annals of history it would appear that personal identification of some character has been in vogue. Members of one savage tribe were distinguished from those of another through distinctive attire or even bodily decorations such as scars resulting from self-inflicted cuts or burns. In the earlier civilizations, differences in the dress of various social classes were clearly defined, sometimes by law but more often through the sanction of custom. The branding of criminals and slaves was practiced also at a time when no other method of identification was known, and various forms of tattooing were used by the Romans to identify and to prevent the desertion of mercenary soldiers. In our present civilization, some tradesmen or craftsmen still wear distinctive attire while the armed forces of various nations are identified readily by uniforms. These are all forms of personal identification, so commonplace their significance may remain unobserved unless called to our notice.

During the early part of the eighteenth century, the better organized police departments in Europe employed officers with good visual memories who attempted to record mentally the faces of criminals and the crimes connected with these individuals. No doubt, effective results were attained by these officials yet it is somewhat appalling to consider the probable consequences if law enforcement officers of contemporaneous times with their shifting populations and speedy transportation facilities, were dependent solely on visual recollection to identify criminals.

It was not until the advent of photography that law enforcement agencies initiated modern methods of criminal identification. This science resulted in the establishment by the more highly organized police departments of "rogues' galleries" and bureaus containing the photographs of thousands of criminals. These collections of photographs, generally segregated according

to sex, color, height and criminal specialty, for the purpose of more ready identification represented a great advancement over prior attempts at effective identification. Although photography continues as an important adjunct in the detection and prosecution of criminals, its early use was hampered by the lack of a method to subdivide the pictures of criminals with definite accuracy. In addition to this defect the changing character of the features prevented a constant medium of comparison.

EVOLUTION OF FINGERPRINT IDENTIFICATION

During the ages when man was seeking a method of personal identification, he was carrying on the inside of the "bulb" or nail joint of each finger, numerous ridge formations or patterns, each possessing definite, distinctive outlines, by which positive identification could have been made. Physiologists are not in agreement why nature provided these distinctive formations of ridges and depressions on the fingertips. They occur elsewhere on the human body, notably on the soles of the feet and palms of the hands but with far less regularity of pattern outline and contour. Some authorities submit that the ridges offset and lessen wear while others contend they assist the sense of touch; create a "friction" surface to the skin, enabling an object to be grasped more readily than would be the case were the fingertips

smooth; and elevate the pores enabling the ducts to discharge perspiration more freely. Regardless of the reason for their existence the fact remains that these ridge formations, permanently a part of the body, discernible as a rule about three months before birth, remain unchanged during the life of an individual and until putrefaction sets in after death and that no two fingers have ever been found whereon the patterns are identical. Insofar as science has been able to determine, these ridges do not indicate definitely character, race, sex or heredity. The ridges, as stated, remain constant through life although they may be affected through deep cuts or burns going beneath the tissue to the ducts, whose outline they follow, and further they may be rendered indistinct, for a time, through some occupational activity, such as mortar or plaster work or dishwashing. However, such effacement is temporary only as the ridges assume their former outlines with definite precision shortly after an individual is removed from such forms of work.

In attempting to trace the origin of the fingerprint science a distinction must be drawn between man's realization that the tips of his fingers bear a diversified ridge construction and the application of this knowledge to the problem of personal identification; the first is a matter of idle observation, the second the result of development and study. History is replete with references to prove that even in ancient times man was aware of the peculiar permanent lineations described by the ridges of the fingertips. On the face of a cliff in Nova Scotia, for instance, can be found an Indian carving or "picture writing" of the outline of a hand with ridges and patterns clearly but crudely marked. The Chinese also had used fingerprints in various forms centuries ago and many references thereto can be found in authoritative writings. In fact, the Chinese seem to have employed finger and hand impressions for sealing documents and for other purposes although the exact symbolism of their action is unknown. The imagination of the English wood engraver, Bewick, was apparently aroused by a realization of the possibilities of utilizing finger impressions to establish the genuineness of his work, for late in the eighteenth century, he resorted to the practice of engraving the impression of his finger on several of his woodcuts.

The first known scientific observation particularly relating to fingerprints was made in 1686 by Marcello Malpighi, professor of anatomy at the University of Bologna, Italy who alluded to the ridges which "describe divers figures". This comment was followed in 1823 when J. E. Purkinje, a professor of anatomy at the University of Breslau, published a treatise or commentary wherein he cited the diversity of ridge patterns connected with the organs of touch and even evolved a differentiation of these patterns into nine varieties.

There is a diversity of opinion as to the first practical application of fingerprints as a means of positive identification. Certain it is, however, that the imperfect impressions left on cliffs and woodcuts and the Chinese finger and hand signatures were not sufficiently clear for close comparison and they may have been manifestations of the early belief, which to some extent pervades the law of sealed instruments today, that personal contact conveys some nebular essence to the thing touched from the person touching it, thereby elevating it in dignity and binding effect. Certain it is, also, that the comments of Malpighi and Purkinje were little more than scholarly or physiological treatises on the mere phenomenon of ridge diversity from a factual basis and lacked the concluding conception of their practical value as media of identification.

It remained for Doctor Henry Faulds, an English authority on the subject of dactylography, to write the first article on the practical use of fingerprints for the identification of criminals. In 1880, Doctor Faulds, who was connected at that time with the Tsukiji Hospital at Tokyo, Japan, conducted experiments which established that the varieties of individual fingerprint patterns were very great and that the patterns remained unchangeable. Doctor Faulds published the results of his experiments in a letter appearing in the magazine "Nature", under date of October 28, 1880. Shortly after the appearance of his article, Sir William Herschel, Chief administrative officer in the Hooghly district of Bengal, India, wrote an article for the same magazine commenting upon the success with which he had utilized fingerprints for twenty years in identifying government pensioners in preventing impersonation and repudiation and in identifying prisoners committed to jail. It appears, therefore, that Doctor Faulds was the first to write concerning the practical use of fingerprints and that Sir William Herschel was the first to make extensive use of them. However, neither developed a method of classification suitable for general use and the intensive application of fingerprint identification.

The next great name in the history of fingerprint identification is that of Sir Francis Galton, the noted English scientist, who became interested in the subject through his study of heredity. He not only established by extended investigations that no two fingerprints were alike but devised the first collections of fingerprint records. As a consequence of his work, a committee was appointed by the British Government to consider the advisability of employing the fingerprint system in the identification of criminals. Galton's articles relating to fingerprints were published in 1892 and 1893, and shortly thereafter, Juan Vucetich, noted Argentine dactyloscopist, claimed to have made his first criminal identification through the medium of fingerprints. Then, Sir E. R. Henry, later Commissioner of Police of Scotland Yard, London, England, who engaged in the study ordered by the British Government, in order to lessen the difficulty of dealing with large collections of fingerprints, devised a simpler yet more comprehensive basis of filing and classifying prints. His system was successfully introduced into England and Wales in July, 1901, and forms the basis of the present system employed by all identification bureaus in the United States as well as other English speaking countries while the Vucetich system has been adopted principally by those nations wherein Spanish is the state language.

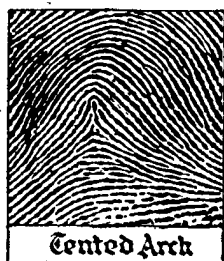
According to the Henry system all fingerprint impressions are divided into the following types of patterns: Loops (Radial and Ulnar), Twinned Loops, Central Pocket Loops, Lateral Pocket Loops, Arches, Tented Arches, Whorls and Accidentals, (see figure 4). Subject to a few exceptions wherein unusual patterns occur, by studying a definite portion of each fingerprint impression, described as the pattern area, generally comprehended by the outer and inner termini, known as the deltas and cores, and by counting or tracing the individual ridges intervening between such points, it is possible to classify each of the ten fingers into a definite, fixed group. The ten fingers then are considered as a unit to attain the complete classification which permits the filing of fingerprint records in sequence, without reference to name, description or crime specialty of the individual, and enables the fingerprint expert in a bureau containing millions of prints to establish an identification in a few minutes. It has been necessary for the larger bureaus to amplify and extend the original Henry system in order to facilitate the searching of files although they have adhered to its basic principles.

Federal Bureau of Investigation United States Department of Justice

John Edgar Hoover, Director



Illustrations of Various Fingerprint Patterns



The presence or existence of whorls in fingerprint impressions is used as the basis for the determination of the chief or primary classification. Each whorl appearing in any or all of the ten fingers has a certain arbitrary or fixed value. The addition of the values represented by such whorls and the indication of the total value is known as the primary classification. Illustrations of the whorl types which are the same as patterns having the figured value are shown on the right of this chart; illustrations of the other types are shown on the left.

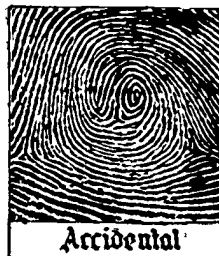
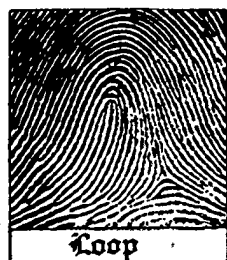
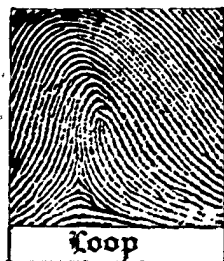


Figure 4.

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FINGERPRINT PATTERNS.

Fingerprints are classified into various types of patterns, and in most of these patterns there are certain focal points known as the cores and the "deltas". Fingerprint experts are able to classify patterns as to their different types.

The core of a pattern may be loosely defined as the center of the pattern.

The "delta" is the first ridge or meeting of ridges, island, or fragment of any nature, nearest to the divergence of the two type lines of the pattern, and is located at or directly in front of the divergence of these type lines. The "delta" is the outer terminus of a pattern.

Type lines are the two ridges running parallel or approximately parallel to each other which subsequently diverge, surround, or tend to surround the pattern area.

In plain arches, ridges enter from one side of the pattern and flow to the other side with a slight rise or wave in the center, making no upward thrust or backward looping turn. (See Figure A.)

Tented arches differ from arches inasmuch as one or more of the ridges in the pattern makes an upward thrust like a tent pole, or two ridges entering from opposite sides thrust upward and meet at an angle giving the appearance of a pitched tent. (See Figure B.)

Loops are patterns in which one or more of the ridges enter on one side of the pattern area, recurve, and flow out or tend to flow out on the same side from which they entered. In order to have a loop there must be (1) a true "delta"; (2) a core; and (3) at least one recurving or looping ridge intervening between the "delta" and the core.

Radial loops flow in a downward slant towards the thumb, i.e., the radius bone. (See Figure C).

Ulnar loops flow in a downward slant towards the little finger of the hand, i.e., the ulnar bone. (See Figure D).

Whorls are all other types of fingerprint patterns, and each whorl has two or more "deltas" and, at least, one core. To this extent the whorl differs from arches, tents and loops.

Plain whorls are patterns or ridges which form, at least, one complete circuit and have two "deltas". They may be spiral, oval, circular or have some other variant of circle. (See Figure E).

Central pocket loops are patterns which with respect to some of the ridges are loops, but with respect to ridges at the center are whorls. They are the unbalanced types of patterns with one "delta". They are transitional patterns lying between the loops and the whorls, in which one or more of the simple recurves of the plain loop types have recurved again to make a complete circuit and to require another "delta" limiting the second recurves. (See Figure F).

Lateral pocket loops (See Figure G) and twinned loops (See Figure H) each have two distinct loop types of patterns within one finger, each loop having a "delta" and a core, and each finger having two "deltas" and two cores - one for each loop formation. Lateral pocket loops are those in which both loops enter and exit on the same side of the pattern. Twinned loops are patterns in which the loops enter on opposite sides of the fingers, each loop having its exit on the same side on which it entered. Lateral loops and twinned

loops are considered together as dual or double loops.

Accidentals (See Figure I). Accidentals are those types which contain two or more distinct types of pattern. They are a combination of either loop and tented arch; loop and whorl; loop and central pocket loop; double loop and central pocket loop; or any other combination of patterns. They also include those unusual patterns which may not be placed by definition into other classifications.

HOW TO TAKE FINGERPRINTS

The equipment required for taking good fingerprints is so inexpensive that this element is not prohibitive to anyone who desires to take advantage of this important science for identification. The equipment consists of a tube of printer's ink, a roller, an inking plate on which the fingers are inked, and possibly a card holder. The last item is not absolutely essential but can be of valuable assistance in holding the fingerprint card in place to prevent blurring. An inking slab also is utilized for the initial distribution of the ink where it is necessary to print a number of persons at the same time. The slab is not considered to be essential where a small number of individuals is to be fingerprinted.

Best results can be expected from the use of printer's black ink, for it dries so rapidly that fresh work can be handled immediately with very little danger of smudging. It is likewise simple to regulate the consistency of printer's ink by warming or using a reducing fluid when the ink is too thick. Plain writing fluid or regular stamp-pad ink is not satisfactory, as prints taken with such inks usually are illegible.

The roller best adapted to fingerprint work is similar to that used by printers in making galley proofs, and its size is a matter to be determined by the individual needs and preference of each operator. The usual one is about 6 inches long and 2 inches in diameter and may be obtained at a printers' supply house.

A good inking plate may be made from a wooden block shaped like a T section of railroad rail with the top covered by any hard, nonporous material such as glass. An ordinary piece of plate glass, however, about one-fourth of an inch thick, about 6 inches wide, and 14 inches long usually will suit the purpose well. This inking glass should be elevated to sufficient height to allow the subject's forearm to assume a horizontal position when the fingers are being inked. For example, it may be placed on the edge of a counter or table of counter height. In such a position the operator has greater assurance of avoiding accidental strain and pressure on the fingers and should procure more uniform impressions. If the glass is placed on the edge of the table the subject's fingers which are not being printed can be made to "swing" off the table and will not interfere with the fingerprinting process.

This equipment should be supplemented by cleansing fluids and rags to prepare the subject's fingers and to thoroughly cleanse the slab, roller, and inking plate after each using. Denatured alcohol, benzine, or gasoline is well suited to this purpose, and the failure to use some such cleanser will result in imperfect impressions either devoid of identifying characteristics or possessing false markings caused by lint, dust, or gummed ink.

Finger impressions should be taken on 8 by 8 inch cards, for this size has been generally adopted because of the facility of filing and the desirability of a uniform medium of exchange. Illustration No. 9 shows fingerprints properly taken on one of the standard personal identification cards furnished by the Federal Bureau of Investigation.

From this illustration one may see that there are two types of impressions involved in taking fingerprints. The upper 10 prints are taken individually of the thumb, index, middle, ring, and little fingers of each hand in the order named and are known as "rolled impressions"; the smaller prints at the bottom of the card are taken by simultaneously printing all the fingers of each hand. These are called "plain impressions" and are used as a check upon the sequence of the rolled impressions.















PERSONAL IDENTIFICATION				
Name <u>John Doe</u> (Please type or print plainly)				
Class _____				
Color <u>White</u> Sex <u>Male</u> Ref _____				
RIGHT HAND				
1. Thumb	2. Index Finger	3. Middle Finger	4. Ring Finger	5. Little Finger
				
LEFT HAND				
6. Thumb	7. Index Finger	8. Middle Finger	9. Ring Finger	10. Little Finger
				
Classified _____ Assembled _____ _____ Verified _____		Note Amputations _____		Signature _____
Index Card _____ Answered _____		Four Fingers Taken Simultaneously _____		
Left Hand		L. Thumb	R. Thumb	Right Hand
				

Figure 9.

In order to understand the importance of carefully taking the rolled impressions, it must be remembered that the classification of prints involves differentiation by patterns, ridge counting, and ridge tracing, and certain focal points must be included to make classification possible.

Illustration No. 10 shows the reasons for taking rolled impressions, for A and B are impressions taken from the same finger. A, being fully rolled, reveals the entire contour of the pattern and supports the classification of the finger as a composite or whorl; B, being partly rolled, discloses only enough of the pattern to lead the classifier to believe that the impression is a tented arch. In addition to establishing accurate classification, it can be seen that the larger surface of rolled impressions affords the expert a greater number of points of comparison.

When the operator is prepared to take a set of finger impressions, a very small daub of ink should be placed on the glass or inking slab, if one is used, and thoroughly rolled until a very thin, even film covers the entire surface.

The subject should stand in front of and at forearm length from the inking plate. In taking rolled impressions the bulb of the finger is placed upon the inking plate, the plane of the nail at right angles to the plane of the inking plate, and the finger is then turned over or rolled until the bulb surface faces the opposite direction.

Care should be exercised to see that each finger is inked evenly from the tip to below the first joint.

By pressing the finger lightly on the card and rolling in exactly the same manner, a clear, rolled impression of the finger surface is obtained. Best results may be expected by inking and printing each finger separately, beginning with the right thumb and then, in order, the index, middle, ring, and little fingers.

If consideration is given to the anatomical or bony structure of the forearms when taking rolled impressions, more uniform prints will be obtained. The two principal bones of the forearm are known as the radius and the ulnar, the radius being on the thumb side and the ulnar on the little-finger side of the arm. As suggested by its name, the radius bone revolves freely about the ulnar as the spoke of a wheel about the hub. To take advantage of the natural movement in making finger impressions the radius should always be made to revolve about the ulnar from the awkward to the easy position. This requires that the thumbs should always be rolled toward and the fingers away from the center of the body. This process leaves the fingers relaxed at the completion of rolling, and they may be easily raised from the printed surface without danger of slipping and smudging the impressions. Illustrations Nos. 11 and 12 show the proper method of holding a finger for inking and printing a rolled impression.



A



B

Figure 10.

While the degree of pressure exerted in inking and taking rolled impressions is important, this factor can be best determined by experience and observation. It is quite important, however, that the subject be cautioned to relax and not attempt to assist by exerting any pressure on the inking surface, for the operator could not then gauge the pressure on the paper, and blurred prints would follow. It is necessary upon occasion to experiment in printing the fingers of certain classes of persons where the ridges may be obliterated or rendered indistinct because of occupational or other factors. The application of the proper amount of pressure with the use of exactly the requisite amount of ink assists in taking good impressions in these cases. Should it be found impossible to obtain satisfactory results because the ridges are worn down, good prints sometimes are obtainable after a week or two elapses, during which the subject is not engaged in his usual occupation, destructive to the ridges.

To obtain "plain impressions" all the fingers of the right hand are pressed lightly on the inking plate and then pressed simultaneously on the lower right-hand corner of the card in the space provided. After the same operation is completed with the left hand, the thumbs of both hands should be inked and printed together in the spaces provided. Illustration No. 13 shows the correct method of taking "plain impressions."

If any fingers of the subject are amputated, the space for the missing finger should be marked "AMP" in order that appropriate allowances may be made in classification. If any of the fingers cannot be printed because of cuts or temporary burns or bandages, its condition should be explained in the empty space provided for that finger; otherwise, the missing impression may mislead the classifier to the conclusion that the finger is amputated.

Care should be exercised to inscribe legibly the subject's name and other prescribed data on the front and back of the card to avoid confusion.

Illustration No. 14 shows the reverse side of a fingerprint card properly filled out with the necessary supplemental data, which often become of material assistance in identification work. It is of particular importance that the identity of the "nearest relative" be clearly shown, as well as his address.

To obtain the most effective results, the civil prints should be forwarded immediately to the Director, Federal Bureau of Investigation, United States Department of Justice, Washington, D. C. The prints then will become part of the national collection of civil records arranged for the convenience of citizens.



Figure 11.

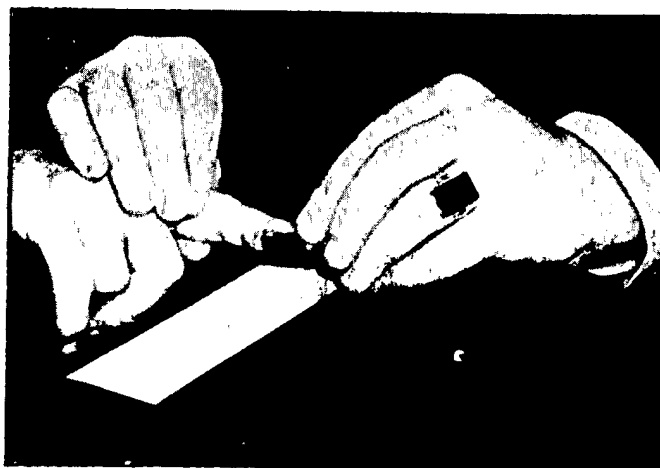


Figure 12.



Figure 13.

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION, UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

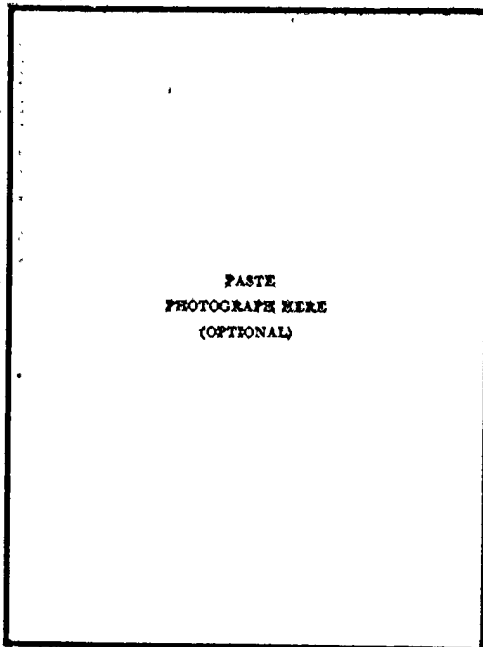
CIVIL FINGERPRINT CARD

FORWARDED FOR PERSONAL IDENTIFICATION PURPOSES ONLY

FORWARDED BY _____ ADDRESS _____

(Please indicate name of organization or law enforcement agency if not submitted by individual whose fingerprint appear hereon)

Name John Doe Height 5'11 1/2" Build Medium
 Address 1999 Grape Street Weight 185 Comp. Fair
 City Tucson, Arizona Eyes Blue Hair Lt. Brown
 Place of birth Tucson, Arizona Scars and marks None
 Date of birth April 20, 1908
 Nationality German



Remarks: Name and address of nearest relative or person to be notified in case of emergency:

Mrs. John Doe
1999 Grape Street
Tucson, Arizona

Figure 14.

THE CIVIL IDENTIFICATION SECTION

During the latter part of 1933, as a result of considerable public interest in civil identification, the Federal Bureau of Investigation established a civil file which has now become the Civil Identification Section of its Identification Division, and has accepted for inclusion in it the fingerprint cards of citizens who wish to record their fingerprints for possible future reference. A special card bearing the words "PERSONAL IDENTIFICATION", is furnished to citizens who desire to forward their fingerprints to this file. There are over 400,000 personal identification fingerprint records in the civil files at the present time. Upon receipt of these fingerprints they are classified and placed in the civil identification files entirely separate from the criminal records. Civil fingerprint cards are not acknowledged unless that action is specifically requested. It is not necessary that fingerprints submitted for the Civil Identification Section be classified before they are mailed to the Bureau or that photographs accompany them.

Many persons have asked how the civil identification fingerprints might be taken. It is suggested that persons desiring to submit such fingerprints who experience difficulty in taking them in accordance with the instructions, hereinafter outlined in this pamphlet, call at their local police department and the department's fingerprint experts will doubtlessly be pleased to assist them in properly taking the prints. Many police departments have personal identification blanks available and those who do not may secure them from the Federal Bureau of Investigation.

It is believed that the Civil Identification Section will serve many useful purposes. The possible uses of fingerprints in commercial, civil and private life are extensive. They can be used in disputes involving identification. In the event of a catastrophe, identification is often difficult, and in train wrecks, casualties at sea, and other disasters there is often a long list of unidentified dead. In addition many persons suffer from amnesia or loss of memory. Fingerprint identifications would eliminate the instances in which friends and relatives, anxious to properly honor the deceased, are prevented from providing a family burial with proper religious services because of failure to establish identity.

It is believed also that the fingerprints of persons fearing kidnapping should be on file in Washington. Further, persons who by reason of prominence are harassed by the activities of impersonators may insure identification through the use of fingerprints. It is thus possible for the real person to establish his true identity as against the impersonator. The fingerprints on file in the Civil Identification Section must be considered, therefore, as nothing more or less than a signature which cannot be forged. No reflection of any kind attaches to the maintenance of this fingerprint record which is but an extension and improvement upon all prior known means of identification.

It should be noted that the Bureau cannot cooperate in the civil identification activity with private individuals and organizations engaging in fingerprint work on a commercial basis. Similarly, envelopes bearing the Government nonpostage privilege cannot be used to transmit civil prints to the Bureau. Special personal identification cards will be supplied to law enforcement agencies upon request and such cards with appropriate instructions for taking prints also will be furnished to private citizens for their own use.

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The Finger Print Instructor

Author: Frederick Kuhne

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Personal Identification

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Publisher: The Finger Print Publishing Association,
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Criminal Identification and the Functions of the Identification Division.

Published by the Federal Bureau of Investigation,
Washington, D. C.

* All or many of the above publications are available in public libraries.

LCS:FL

94-1 -203-

August 5, 1937.

Mr. E. S. Martin,
National Director of Publications,
Division of Program,
Boy Scouts of America,
2 Park Avenue,
New York, New York.

Dear Mr. Martin:

Supplementing my letter of July 27, 1937, I am enclosing a draft of the information compiled at the Federal Bureau of Investigation for use in connection with your booklet on "Fingerprinting" in the Merit Badge series.

I would like to have your frank expression relative to this draft, and in particular your views as to whether the materials supplied with reference to fingerprint pattern interpretations are sufficiently comprehensive for the Merit Badge series, especially the requirements feature. The text and illustrations could, of course, be amplified, if necessary. Amplifications of themselves, however, might result in an unwarrantedly technical treatise of an involved nature, which possibly would appear to be prohibitive in character and beyond the attainment of the casual reader. The material appearing in the bibliography, usually available in public libraries, could, of course, be consulted for research work and for amplification of this text.

RECORDED & INDEXED

In general, it is my feeling that the material supplied would be sufficient to permit the scouts studying fingerprinting with a view of attainment of the Merit Badge to secure a rather general basic knowledge of the pattern interpretations.

I shall be very glad to receive expressions of your views relative to this matter and to be guided entirely by your wishes. I may add that the bulk of the material furnished in this booklet is published by the Bureau in various pamphlets, principally for the information of law enforcement officers, so this booklet would contain a great deal of material officially supplied by the Federal Bureau of Investigation for the information and guidance of law enforcement officers. This, I think, would be desirable. As supplied, the attached booklet is arranged in the following order:

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION,
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

Mr. E. S. Martin,
Boy Scouts of America,
New York, New York.

-2-

August 5, 1937.

Fingerprint Requirements
Introduction
Historical background
Evolution of fingerprint identification
Fingerprint patterns and illustrations
How to take fingerprints
The Civil Identification Section
Biographical sketch of John Edgar Hoover,
Director, Federal Bureau of Investigation,
U. S. Department of Justice
Bibliography.

With best wishes and kind regards, I am

Sincerely yours,

J. Edgar Hoover

John Edgar Hoover,
Director.

Enclosure #1069889.